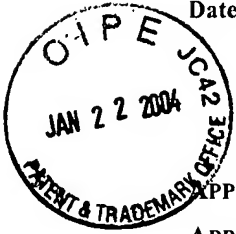


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Rastelli *et al.*

APPLICATION NO: 10/613,105

EXAMINER: Not yet assigned

FILING DATE: July 2, 2003

ART UNIT: 1632

FOR: METHOD OF DETECTING INFLAMMATORY LUNG DISORDERS

MAIL STOP MISSING PARTS

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

A. Introductory Comments:

This amendment accompanies a Response to Notice to File Corrected Application Papers issued in the above-referenced application on December 5, 2003. Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as set forth below and consider the following remarks.